

accommodates the transfer of data between the read/write head and said end user computer peripheral device via said coupler. ~~34~~

~~34~~ 35. In combination as claimed in claim 34 wherein said means for coupling includes a coil read/write element positioned for coupling with the read/write head of the diskette drive by means of electromagnetic induction when said coupler is inserted in said diskette drive. ~~34~~

~~34~~ ³ 36. In combination as claimed in claim ~~34~~ ¹ wherein said means for coupling includes a read/write element for effecting a capacitive coupling with the read/write head of the diskette drive. ~~34~~

Dub C3
1
B
~~34~~ 37. In combination as claimed in claim 34 wherein said means for coupling is a read/write element in a fixed position on said coupler to align with the read/write head of the diskette drive when inserted therein. ~~34~~

~~34~~ 38. In combination as claimed in claim 37 including signal conditioning means which cooperates with said element to enhance a signal received by said element from the read/write head when said coupler is inserted in said diskette drive. ~~34~~

~~34~~ 39. In combination as claimed in claim 34 wherein said means for coupling with a read/write head of the diskette drive includes a rotatably mounted memory storage medium positioned to be rotatably driven by said diskette drive when said coupler is inserted therein and thereby rotate said memory storage medium beneath said read/write head of said diskette drive, said means for coupling further including a coupler read/write head cooperating with said memory storage medium for transferring data therebetween and spaced from said read/write head of said diskette drive whereby data is transferred between said read/write heads via said memory storage medium. ~~34~~

Con't
~~34~~ 40. In combination as claimed in claim 34 wherein said coupler includes means for producing an initial set of signal instructions for said computer which are transmitted to said computer when said coupler is initially aligned and positioned within said diskette drive. ~~34~~

41. In combination as claimed in claim 34 including a standard interface on said coupler by means of which said external device is connected to said coupler.

42. A coupler for receipt in a diskette drive of a computer said coupler comprising:

a body shaped for receipt in a diskette drive in the manner of a standard diskette, coupling means including a stationary data transfer element located on said coupler for transferring data between said stationary data transfer element and a read/write head of the diskette drive when said coupler is received in the diskette drive, and a standard electrical interface connected with said data transfer element for connecting said data transfer element with a computer peripheral device via said standard electrical interface.--

43. A coupler as claimed in claim 42 wherein said stationary data transfer element is located on said coupler in a position corresponding to a read/write head position associated with a conventional diskette.

44. A coupler as claimed in claim 43 including signal control and conditioning means associated with said stationary data transfer element which produces a control and conditioning signal transmitted to the read/write head of the diskette drive when inserted therein.

45. A coupler as claimed in 42 wherein said data transfer element is selected from a group consisting of a read, a write or read/write element.

46. A coupler as claimed in claim 42 wherein said data transfer element is a read/write element.

47. A method for allowing a read/write head of a diskette drive of a computer to act as a communication port connecting the read/write head with one of a host of separate computer peripherals each separate computer peripheral traditionally being connected to a computer by means of an input/output port of the computer, and a standard port of the particular separate computer peripheral, said method comprising:

Sub
C4

Con't

inserting a coupler having a stationary data transfer element in the diskette drive and forming a coupling between the stationary data transfer element and the read/write head of the diskette drive which coupling accommodates transmitting data between the stationary data transfer element and the read/write head, and

connecting said coupler to the standard port of the separate computer peripheral and thereby providing an electrical path for transferring data between the data transfer element and said separate computer peripheral.

B ¹¹
~~48~~ ¹⁰ A method as claimed in claim ~~47~~ wherein said step of inserting the coupler aligns the stationary data transfer element against the read/write head of the diskette drive.

¹²
~~49~~ ¹⁰ A method as claimed in claim ~~47~~ wherein said step of inserting the coupler causes the coupling of the read/write head with a memory storage medium and causes the coupling of the stationary data transfer element with the memory storage medium whereby data is transferred between the stationary data transfer element and the read/write head via the memory storage medium.

Concl'd ¹³ ¹¹
~~50~~ A method as claimed in claim ~~48~~ including providing said coupler with an initial instructing signal which is activated by inserting the coupler in the diskette drive, and relaying said instructing signal to the computer via the stationary data transfer element.

In view of the above await the Examiner's review and consideration of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas S. Johnson
Agent on behalf of the Applicant
Douglas S. Johnson
Registration No. 15,945
(416) 368-8313

WH:keh
d/hd/wh
(7552AA)